

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-20 have been canceled, without prejudice.

Claims 33-35 and 37 have been withdrawn from consideration. Rejoinder and allowance of the withdrawn method claims, once product claims made and/or used by the withdrawn method claims are found allowable.

Withdrawal of the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 30 and 31 in response to the applicants broadening amendment is acknowledged, with appreciation.

Acceptance of the amended drawings is acknowledged, with appreciation.

Acknowledgement of receipt of the priority documents in the parent application is requested in the Examiner's next Action.

The Section 102 rejection of claims 22-24, 27 and 30-32 over SEQ ID NO:13 of La Thangue (U.S. Patent No. 5,863,757), is obviated by the above amendments. The reference fails to teach or suggest, for example, a polypeptide of the presently claimed invention. Withdrawal of the Section 102 rejection is requested.

The Section 101 rejection of claims 21-32 and 36 is obviated by the above amendments. Withdrawal of the Section 101 rejection is requested.

The Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of claim 29 is obviated by the above amendments. Withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of claim 29 is requested.

The Section 102 rejection of claims 27 and 28 over Chin-Lee (Molecular and Cellular Biology, May 1995, Vol. 15, pages 2536-2546), is obviated by the above amendments. The applicants understand that Figure 1A of the reference, to which the

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Examiner refers, shows a comparison of human DP-1 and DP-2. The following is the heading of the figure:

"Sequence comparison of hDP-1 and hDP-2. (A) Amino acid sequences of hDP-1 and hDP-2. Identical matches are indicated by vertical lines between the two sequences."

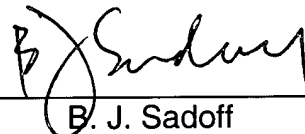
The reference, alone or with the cited Apostolova reference (JBC 2002 September 13:277(37) 34471-9), is not believed to anticipate the presently claimed invention. Withdrawal of the Section 102 rejection of claims 27 and 28 over Chin-Lee is requested.

The claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



B. J. Sadoff
Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100